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Letter dated 11 September 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring to your attention that the armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, acting in legitimate self-defence recognized by Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, took limited and measured military action on 8 September 2018, targeting a terrorist group located in northern Iraq. The attack was carried out precisely against the headquarters and the leadership of the terrorist group, namely, the Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan (PDKI), with no collateral damage to civilians and civilian assets in the area.

The PDKI has been committing cross-border armed terrorist attacks against targets in the Iranian border provinces in the past several years, including nine armed terrorist attacks in the past four months in such areas as Naghadeh, Piranshahr, Oshnavieh, Bukan, Nosoud and Sardasht that have resulted in many innocent civilian casualties. These armed terrorist acts, which were undertaken against the will and despite the objection of the Iraqi Government, left no option for Iranian authorities other than authorizing limited military action in self-defence aimed at putting an end to these activities.

During the years prior to the limited military action, the Iranian Government took frequent diplomatic actions before the central and regional Iraqi authorities, urging them to take necessary measures to stop the terrorist activities of the PDKI against the Iranian border regions and reserving the rights of Iran to react in an appropriate and measured way to defend its territory and people against these terrorist acts.

I should also avail myself of this opportunity to reiterate the full respect of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Gholamali **Khoshroo**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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